

Application No. 10/719,332
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

RE: THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct some minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware, including all of the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

RE: THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended based on the subject matter of (now canceled) claims 2, 3 and 11. In addition, claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, 14-17 and 19-22 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent, and/or to reflect the cancellation of claim 18. The informalities pointed out by the Examiner have been corrected.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered, and that the rejection under 35 USC 112 be withdrawn.

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RE: THE PROVISIONAL OBVIOUSNESS-TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to commonly owned application Serial No. 10/776,410 to obviate the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

RE: THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 11-17 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 2,680,199 ("Abel"); claims 4, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Abel and USP 5,177,778 ("Tsurumaki et al"); and claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Abel and USP 5,737,386 ("Strawder"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a radiation image radiographing apparatus is provided which comprises a radiation source; a subject platform for supporting a subject so as to face the subject to the radiation source; and a plurality of supporting platforms for supporting a radiation image information detecting member for detecting radiation image information based on radiation transmitted through the subject. The plurality of supporting

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platforms are positioned on an opposite side of the subject platform with respect to the radiation source. In addition, the plurality of supporting platforms are provided at fixed distances from the radiation source, and at least two supporting platforms are provided at respective different distances from the radiation source. Still further, at least one of the supporting platforms is provided at a position suitable for radiographing an absorption contrast image, and at least another one of the supporting platforms is provided at a position suitable for radiographing a phase contrast image. And according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, each of the plurality of supporting platforms is individually movable to be evacuated from a position in which the supporting platform faces the radiation source.

With this structure each supporting platform can be individually moved out of the way of the supporting platform in use during a radiographing procedure. As a result, it is possible to provide supporting platforms for both absorption contrast image and phase contrast image radiographing, without one of the supporting platforms interfering with the radiographing mode performed using the other supporting platform.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest supporting platforms that are individually movable to be evacuated from a position in which

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the supporting platform faces the radiation source, as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, as well as each of claims 4-10, 13-17 and 19-22 depending therefrom, clearly patentably distinguishes over all of the cited references, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

Douglas Holtz
Reg. No. 33,902

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
220 Fifth Avenue - 16th Floor
New York, New York 10001-7708
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101

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